

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE SALVATION ARMY OF TORRANCE

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important organization in my district, the Salvation Army of Torrance. This year the Salvation Army of Torrance is celebrating twenty years of service to the South Bay community.

The Salvation Army was established in 1865 by an ordained minister. The organization was founded upon strong religious beliefs, recognizing the interdependence of material, emotional, and spiritual needs. The basic social services have remained an expression of the Army's strong religious principles. Throughout the years, new programs have been established to address contemporary needs.

The Salvation Army provides assistance to millions of people throughout the world. Services range from providing disaster relief to drug and alcohol counseling. They provide an invaluable service to those in need.

During the last twenty years, the Salvation Army of Torrance has expanded its program to include preschool, adult day care, summer day camp, after school programs, outreach ministries, and a family service department. This organization has left a positive impact upon the South Bay, providing assistance to thousands.

I commend the volunteers and staff of the Salvation Army of Torrance for their commitment and dedication of this charitable cause. Congratulations on this milestone.

TO HONOR PLANNED PARENTHOOD ASSOCIATION OF BUCKS COUNTY, PA

HON. JAMES C. GREENWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Planned Parenthood Association of Bucks County (PPABC) on its 35th anniversary, and the fine people who work to ensure the men and women in our area have access to the highest quality health services available. I especially want to thank the leadership of Linda Hahn, CEO, and Sandra Trainer, Chair of the Board, for guiding PPABC in its efforts.

PPABC has served Bucks County well. It is dedicated to the principles that every individual has a fundamental right to decide when or whether to have a child, and that every child should be wanted and loved.

Each year, Planned Parenthood health centers like the five in Bucks County provide high quality, affordable reproductive health care and sexual health information. PPABC is

made up of highly trained, dedicated and thoughtful people. While they come from different walks of life, they are uniformly committed to ensuring that men and women have access to the care they need.

Each Planned Parenthood affiliate is a unique, locally governed health service organization that reflects the diverse needs of its community. PPABC health centers offer a wide range of services to its 13,000 patients each year, including providing comprehensive, confidential, reproductive health services; providing education and counseling services which promote healthy human sexuality; and protecting and advocating for reproductive rights and services. They encourage communication between adolescents and parents to help nourish the bonds that hold families together. In our day and age, children and teens must be armed with the knowledge to deal with serious issues such as sexuality, drugs, communicable diseases, and, in unfortunate circumstances, abortion. The men and women at PPABC help guide these difficult decisions, and the people of Bucks County are better off for their assistance.

Planned Parenthood Association of Bucks County is committed to helping people become active supporters and advocates for reproductive health. Quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, they help me understand the needs and concerns of the men and women in my district, and I am better able to use that information to effectuate change and prevent back peddling in this Congress. They are a critical resource for me, and I am truly thankful for their valued input.

I congratulate the Planned Parenthood Association of Bucks County for 35 years of dedicated, tireless service, and wish them continued success in their next 35 years.

IN HONOR OF THE MAGNIFICAT HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Magnificat volleyball team for their tremendous accomplishments this year. Their spirit and good sportsmanship throughout the season has inspired us all.

Magnificat, an all girls, Catholic high school in Rocky River, Ohio, sent their Bluestreaks off to the state volleyball tournament for the first time since 1991. Their theme this year was "to get the monkey off their back" and make it out of regionals. Since 1993, when Jenny Kathe took over the team, the Bluestreaks have made it to regionals each year, but never advanced. In order to keep their goal in focus and still have fun, they incorporated monkeys into everything. There were stuffed monkeys everywhere, as well as monkey logos on shirts and practice shorts.

The girls were able to truly get the monkey off their back by becoming, first, the District

Champions, and then the regional Champions for Division I. While at the State Championships, Jenny Kathe was named Coach of the Year for Division I volleyball as they went on to capture the title of State Runner-up. The girls closed their season with the dignity and excellence that makes us all very proud of them.

Throughout the year, the girls showed team spirit, togetherness, and good sportsmanship. This year they were an extremely close knit team. There was never a moment when an individual was singled out. They shared their successes together, as well as their few defeats. They showed courage and strength both on and off the court. The team should be a role model for all sports team today.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in congratulating this extraordinary group of girls and their coaches, parents and classmates who cheered them on and made this year a tremendous one.

TRIBUTE TO MIODRAG "JOE" DJOKIC

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell you an amazing story of a man who conquered great adversity in life and emerged as a fine American citizen. Miodrag "Joe" Djokic tragically passed away recently in his home in Collbran, Colorado. Though he is gone, he will live in the hearts of all who knew him and be remembered for many years by those who have heard his amazing story.

Joe's story begins in 1912, in Sarbanovac, Serbia. As a young man, he was drafted into the Yugoslav Army to fight in World War II. Soon after the fighting broke out, he was captured by the German Army and taken to a labor camp. He was repeatedly moved from camp to camp across Central Europe. Eventually, he ended up in a displaced persons camp in West Germany where he and his wife, Helena, remained until 1951.

To fulfill his dream of becoming an American citizen, he gathered up his family and moved to Colorado. There he worked countless hours as a farmer and a dedicated father. Although his accomplishments in life were many, none were as weighty as the legacy that he leaves in his family. He is survived by his wife, Helena, their son, Sveto, his wife, Anne, and their daughter. These fine people will undoubtedly carry on the legacy of hard work and dedication to their family that their father embodied.

Although his life's accomplishments will long be remembered and admired, most who knew him well will remember Joe, above all else, as a friend. It is clear that the multitude of those who have come to know Joe as a friend will be worse off in his absence. However, Mr. Speaker, I am confident that, in spite of this

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

profound loss, Joe's family and friends can take solace in the knowledge that each is a better person for having known him.

TRIBUTE TO THE TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL AND SAVANNAH
TOASTMASTERS CLUB 705

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, since October 1924 over three million men and women have benefitted from the superb communication and leadership programs of the Toastmasters. I am one of those 3 million. Today, I want to recognize Toastmasters International now in their 75th year of existence, and wish to commend the Savannah, Georgia, Toastmasters Club 705 on their own 50th anniversary.

Seventy-five years ago, Dr. Ralph C. Smedley, met with a group of men in the basement of a YMCA in Santa Ana, California and formed a club "to afford practice and training in the art of public speaking and in presiding over meetings, and to promote sociability and good fellowship among its members." Since 1924 that small group of men has grown into a remarkable non-profit organization with over 174,900 members representing 8,642 clubs in more than 60 countries around the world.

Toastmasters International has been referred to as "the world's premier self-improvement club." Through seventy-five years, millions of men and women have improved their leadership skills, self-confidence and communications abilities through the public speaking programs of Toastmasters International. "Home Improvements" star Tim Allen, Miss America 1996 Tara Dawn Holland, and Georgia Senator Sam Nunn are credited with being "celebrity Toastmasters". But it is our local businesses, Governments, and communities that benefit from the abilities gained by those who chose to become better listeners, thinkers, and speakers through involvement in this organization.

The Savannah, Georgia, Toastmasters Club 705, was chartered in 1949 and recently celebrated their 50th Anniversary. The third oldest of 179 chapters in Georgia, Club 705 members pride themselves on the long history of the organization, their outstanding members, and their standards of conduct that have improved many an individuals communications and leadership skills. The old stories of the six foot tall street traffic light that was used as a timer, the Claxon that provided a deafening overtime sound, or the infamous "AH Bucket" a tin can into which marbles were thrown whenever a speaker used a "non-word" reflect some of the tools of the trade to build talent in a fun, exciting atmosphere.

Over the passed 50 years the many members of Club 705 have developed their talents over time and have mentioned many a rookie in their communications ability. These are extraordinary members like Fred Stephens, Dick Piazza, Jack Homans, bill Kearny, Maggie Edinfield, Linda Cole, the current senior member Neil Bodenstein, and many others. Rookies like myself sincerely appreciate what

Toastmasters has done for us and for our communities, improving the listening, thinking, and speaking abilities of millions through their dedication and time. Special thanks to the current officers of Club 705; President Earl Berksteiner, Vice Presidents Peggy Keisker Gunn and Teresa Martinez, Secretary Debbie Cameron, Treasurer Michael Dubberly, and Sergeants at Arms Mark Stall and Neil Bodenstein. Congratulations to Toastmasters International and to Savannah Club 705—Happy Anniversary—here's to you!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, November 16, 1999, I was with my father, who had open-heart surgery in the hospital, and therefore was unavoidably absent for rollcall votes 587 through 595. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 587, "yes" on rollcall vote 588, "yes" on rollcall vote 589, "no" on rollcall vote 590, "yes" on rollcall vote 591, "yes" on rollcall vote 592, "yes" on rollcall vote 593, "yes" on rollcall vote 594, and "no" on rollcall vote 595.

THE WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS SOURCING AND PRIVACY ACT

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Wireless Telecommunications Sourcing and Privacy Act, and am pleased to be joined in introducing this legislation by several of my colleagues, including Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. WILSON and Mr. LARGENT.

This legislation is about nothing other than developing a fairer and simpler way to assign a wireless call to a jurisdiction for tax purposes. Let me be crystal clear at the outset—this proposal is about how the wireless industry administers state and local taxes. It does not reduce or change the wireless industry's tax obligations. This same simplicity will also help lower the cost to states and localities of administering taxes on wireless services. And, this all comes together for the wireless consumer—greater simplicity, lower costs, and reduced chances of getting caught in a "double-tax" situation where two tax jurisdictions are seeking to tax the same revenue.

There are some practical problems which can arise in the administration of state and local governments on wireless phone calls. For example, different jurisdictions may follow different methodologies making the determination of the correct taxation very difficult. Depending on the methodology a call could be taxed in the town or city where the customer is located; or, in the city or town where the wireless antenna is located; or, even in the city or town where the wireless switch is lo-

cated. The bottom line—it's confusing, it's costly, it's a practical problem we can fix with the legislation we are introducing today.

I would like to stress that this situation is born of good faith efforts of state and local governments to apply existing methods. The problem is that all existing methods do not necessarily work for wireless telecommunications and, due to that fact, sometimes different methods are applied to the same wireless call resulting in double-taxation and confusion.

I would like my colleagues to know that extensive discussion of various options to solve this problem has gone on over the past few years among several state and local government organizations—including the National Governor's Association, the National League of Cities, the Multistate Tax Commission, the Federation of Tax Administrators and others—and the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association representing the wireless industry. Together, they have developed a new methodology for dealing with a complex problem—and that new methodology is embodied in the legislation I am introducing today.

Under the Wireless Telecommunications Sourcing and Privacy Act, all state & local telecommunications taxes would be assigned to one location—the customer's place of primary use—which must be either the customer's home or business address.

This new method of sourcing wireless revenues offers certainty and consistency in the application of tax law, and does so in a way that does not change the ability of states and localities to tax these revenues.

I want to also make it clear that this bill in no way provides any determination or has any impact on the work of the Advisory Commission on Electronic Commerce.

The bill also requires the General Accounting Office (GAO) to examine the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) implementation of provisions of current law which requires the telecommunications industry to pay fees to recoup costs of regulatory functions. There has been concern that these fees have not in the past and are not presently being properly assessed. While I do not take a position on this matter at this time, I do think it is important to get a thorough examination of the issue. The GAO study will provide such a review.

Furthermore, the bill includes provisions of a bill introduced and led through the legislative process in the House by my fellow Commerce Committee colleague, Mrs. WILSON, on the issue of improving the privacy protections afforded users of wireless communications devices. This bill, H.R. 514, overwhelmingly passed the House earlier this year. Inclusion of these provisions in this bill is a natural partnering of wireless telecommunications issues and will ease member consideration of these important concepts.

Wireless customers will benefit because their monthly bills will be simpler and the possibility of double taxation of their mobile calls from competing jurisdictions will be greatly reduced. Tax administration will be simplified for both government and industry.

I want to thank my colleagues for joining me in introducing this legislation. I look forward to working with all of them to ensure the full and speedy consideration of this proposal. I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation.